

Bath County Conservation District Hosts Agriculture Field Day

By Pam Williams

On Aug. 6, 2015 Bath County Conservation District hosted their annual Agriculture Field Day at B & E Slate Creek Farm, owned by Steven and Richelle Back. Despite the wet weather and having to move the programs inside the barn area, approximately 200 people attended to participate in the session and enjoy a ribeye dinner. Presentations included Soil Health by Josh McGrath, UK soil scientist; corn and soybean varieties by Mark Thomas from Pioneer Hybrids; Roundup-ready alfalfa by Tom Keene, UK hay specialist; creek rock regulations by Danny Fraley and Lannie Howard, Ky. Division of Water; beekeeping for profit by Bruce Barnes; pond management by Tom Timmerman and Justin Spaulding, fish biologists; children's program by Jane Ellington, Farm Bureau Women's Committee; and a mock farm rescue presented by Derek Ellington, Owingsville Fire Department.

During the program the conservation district recognized Mr. Steven Back as their annual Master Conservationist. Back and his family have completed many conservation practices on their farm over the years and are very dedicated to their agriculture heritage while protecting the environment. Also presented during the evening was the district's Cooperator of the Year award, which went to Mr. Tim Lyons. Lyons also makes dedicated efforts in working with the district and implementing conservation measures to protect his resources for future tenants of the land.

Bath County Conservation District utilizes this event to partner with many local organizations and agencies to promote conservation and recognize landowners for their efforts in protecting the natural resources in Bath County. This year partners and sponsors included University of Kentucky, Bath County Cooperative Extension Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Bath County Farm Bureau, Bath County Cattlemen's Association, Farm Service Agency, Farm Bureau Women's Committee, Farm Credit Services, Bluegrass Stockyards, Mt. Sterling, Owingsville Banking Company, Peoples Bank and Citizens Bank. The district knows that keeping up good communication and involvement of partner agencies and organizations aids them in meeting their goals of protecting the environment, while making themselves well known and an environmental leader in Bath County.



(L to R) Supervisors Betty Baily, Colby Wells, Steven Bach, B&E/Slate Creek Farm and Family, Master Conservationist and Emily Anderson, NRCS



(L to R) Supervisors Aaron Watson, Missy Ginter, Tim Lyons “Outstanding Cooperator” and Emily Anderson, NRCS



(L to R) Supervisor, Christopher Hardin and Bach Family receiving plaque from the Bath County Conservation District for hosting the Field Day.



Program attendees



Presenting to the interested field day participants is Justin Spaulding, Assistant District Fisheries Biologists